



## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

### **Federal Railroad Administration**

### **Petition for Waiver of Compliance**

### **Docket Number FRA-2009-0074**

In accordance with Part 211 of Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that by a document dated November 9, 2012, Canadian National Railway (CN), the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET), and the United Transportation Union (UTU) have jointly petitioned the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for an extension of their waiver of compliance from certain provisions of the Federal hours of service laws contained at 49 U.S.C. 21103(a)(4). FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2009-0074.

In their petition, CN, BLET, and UTU seek relief from 49 U.S.C. 21103(a)(4), which in part requires a train employee to receive 48 hours off duty after initiating an on-duty period for 6 consecutive days. Specifically, CN, BLET, and UTU seek an extension of the existing waiver to allow a train employee to initiate an on-duty period for 6 consecutive days followed by 24 hours off duty. In support of their request, CN, BLET, and UTU explained that this type of schedule has not compromised rail safety. Additionally, as expressed in the original petition, work-life balance has continued for train employees, and the railroad has benefitted from continued productivity.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the

petition, is available for review online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) and in person at the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) Docket Operations Facility, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., W12-140, Washington, D.C. 20590. The Docket Operations Facility is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number and may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Web site: <http://www.regulations.gov/>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- Fax: 202-493-2251.
- Mail: Docket Operations Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., W12-140, Washington, D.C. 20590.
- Hand Delivery: 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Room W12-140, Washington, D.C. 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received by [INSERT DATE 45 DAYS FROM PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE] will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered as far as practicable.

Anyone is able to search the electronic form of any written communications and

comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the Federal Register published on April 11, 2000 (Volume 65, Number 70; Pages 19477–78), or online at <http://www.dot.gov/privacy.html>.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 19, 2012.

Ron Hynes  
Director, Office of Safety Assurance and Compliance

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